

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 SS-15 NSC-05
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02
PA-01 PRS-01 H-01 /057 W
-----141937Z 024854 /47
R 141459Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2551

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: CGEN, PFOR, SHUM, BU
SUBJECT: DIVIDED FAMILIES

REF: A) SOFIA 0523; B) SOFIA 0354; C) STATE 046470

1. DURING THE COLD-SHOWER INTERVIEW WITH OUR CONSUL MARCH 11, KOVACHEV IN ADDITION TO BEING HIS LOVABLE SELF WITH RESPECT TO THE MAREVA CASE (REF A) ALSO DELIVERED HIMSELF OF TWO ADDITIONAL NEGATIVE REMARKS:

2. FIRST, HE SAID THE MFA "OBJECTS" TO THE EMBASSY CONTACTING BULGARIAN NATIONALS DIRECTLY ABOUT THE WILLINGNESS OF THEIR RELATIVES IN THE US TO HAVE THEM COME AND VISIT OR OTHERWISE JOIN THEM. THIS WAS TANTAMOUNT TO "ENCOURAGING" BULGARIANS TO LEAVE THEIR COUNTRY. CONSUL RESPONDED THAT EMBASSY HAS OBLIGATIONS TOWARD AMERICAN CITIZENS WRITING THEM ABOUT THEIR RELATIVES AND TOWARD MEMBERS OF CONGRESS MAKING INQUIRIES, AND IT WAS HARD TO SEE HOW THESE COULD BE MET WITHOUT COMMUNICATING WITH THOSE RELATIVES.

3. SECOND, KOVACHEV RESPONDED WITH A CLEAR NEGATIVE WHEN ASKED IF WE COULD HAVE THE LIST OF 14 CASES THAT HAD BEEN HANDLED THROUGH THE BULGARIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

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HE SAID BULGARIAN EMBASSY WILL NOTIFY THE SPONSORS AND CONTACT CONGRESSMEN OR SENATORS WHO HAD INDICATED INTEREST.

4. AMBASSADOR INTENDS TO RAISE THESE MATTERS, TOO, WHEN HE SEES KOVACHEV'S SUPERIOR, AMBASSADOR ZHELENSKI.
HERZ

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Message Attributes

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